

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life*

October 24, 2024

William Chen  
Department of Regional Planning  
County of Los Angeles  
320 W. Temple Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Trojan Storage Calabasas  
SCH # 2024091025  
Vic. LA-101/PM 28.28  
GTS # LA-2024-04635-MND

Dear William Chen:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced environmental document. The Project proposes construction and operation of an approximately 155,900 square feet (SF) of self-storage facility (79,991 SF aboveground and 75,909 SF belowground) in three buildings, with 1,334 self-storage units, a 2,000 SF office/manager's residence, and 27 surface parking spaces.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

<https://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/#guidelines-updates>

As a reminder, VMT is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after July 1, 2020, which is the statewide implementation date.

Caltrans is aware of challenges that the region faces in identifying viable solutions to alleviating congestion on State and Local facilities. With limited room to expand vehicular capacity, this project should incorporate multi-modal and complete streets transportation elements that will actively promote alternatives to car use and better manage existing parking assets. Prioritizing and allocating space to efficient modes of travel such as bicycling and public transit can allow streets to transport more people in a fixed amount of right-of-way.

Caltrans encourages city planning that promotes complete streets and pedestrian safety through measures like road diets, recognized for enhancing safety and being cost-effective when combined with street resurfacing. City planning should focus on reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips, improving safety, lowering vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

The project area is served by LA Metro, with minimal expected impact on transit demand due to a slight population increase. There are no designated bike routes nearby, and the project does not conflict with any bicycle-related policies. Pedestrian access is provided via a sidewalk along Old Scandia Lane, and no conflicts with pedestrian-related plans are anticipated. Overall, the project will have a less than significant impact on transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities, with no mitigation required.

The project's trip generation was analyzed using both the 10th and 11th editions of ITE trip generation rates. Both versions forecast the same 240 daily trips, with slight differences in peak-hour trips: 18 AM and 26 PM in the 10th edition, and 16 AM and 22 PM in the 11th edition. Overall, the total daily trip forecast remains consistent across both editions.

The Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) analysis for the project follows State CEQA guidelines, which prioritize VMT as a transportation impact metric over Level of Service. The self-storage project is expected to generate minimal VMT due to its local-serving nature and low employee count. Most traffic would be from nearby customers, potentially reducing longer trips. The project aligns with local and state transportation policies, leading to a less-than-significant impact on VMT, with no need for mitigation.

As a reminder, any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which require use of oversized transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. We recommend large-size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods. Truck drivers should cover construction trucks with tarpaulin to avoid debris spillage onto the State Highway.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin, the project coordinator, at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # LA-2024-04635-MND.

Sincerely,



Anthony Higgins  
Acting LDR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse